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77 MONTEVIDEO 5816

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-21 EUR-12 ISO-02 HA-05 AID-05 IO-13 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 J-21 INR-27 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-26 MCT-01 /097 W
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FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5492
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AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
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AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY
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E.O. 11652: GTS

TAGS: SHUN, UY

SUBJ: HUMAN RIGHTS: EC DEMARCHE TO GOU ELICITS DEFENSIVE REPLY
REF: MONTEVIDEO 5811

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: DEMARCHE BY EC NINE TO GOU ON
LATTER'S HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD (REF: TEL) HAS NOW RECEIVED
FORMAL REPLY.

TO EMPHASIZE ITS REACTION, GOU

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HAS CAUSED FULL TEXT OF ITS REPLY TO BE CARRIED PROMINENTLY
IN LOCAL PRESS DEC. 24. THIS INCIDENT IS ANOTHER EXAMPLE
OF GOU'S TYPICAL KNEE-JERK REACTION TO CRITICISM AND IS
FULLY IN THE SPIRIT OF ITS RECENT CAMPAIGN IN THE LOCAL PRESS
TO DISCREDIT HUMAN RIGHTS CRITICS. ALSO AS USUAL, GROUP WITHIN
GOU RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS TREND APPEARS TO BE OBLIVIOUS TO THE
LONGER-RANGE IMPLICATIONS OF ITS CONDUCT - ESPECIALLY
THE IMPACT ON ITS OWN CITIZENS OF REPEATED COVERAGE IN
NATIONAL PRESS OF GOU'S DEFICIENT HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD.
END SUMMARY.

2. THE FULL TEXT OF THE EC DEMARCHE AND GOU'S REPLY WERE
CARRIED IN ALL MORNING PAPERS. THE INDEPENDENT EL DIA RAN
THE TEXTS ON AN INSIDE PAGE WITHOUT COMMENTARY. HOWEVER,
PRO-GOVERNMENT EL PAIS FRONT-PAGED STORY AND INCLUDED
COMMENTS FROM "WELL-INFORMED SOURCE" TO GOU THAT INCIDENT

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EXCISE

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REPRESENTED "AN ESCALATION OF PRESSURE, CONTROLLED AND
INSPIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE". COMMENT WENT ON TO
LINK THIS WITH RECENT VISITS OF SOUTHCOM COMMANDER GEN.
MCAULIFFE (WHO FORCEFULLY REPEATED US POLICY ON GOV HUMAN
RIGHTS VIOLATIONS)) AND THREE FOREIGN JURISTS (WHO ASKED
GOV OFFICIALS SOME EMBARRASSING QUESTION). UNIDENTIFIED
SPOKESMAN CHARACTERIZED EC DEMARCH AS "DIRECTED" BY US
POLICY OF PRESSURE ON URUGUAY. END CONFIDENTIAL
BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

3. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF GOU REPLY TO DEMARCHE:

1. FIRST, THE GOVERNMENT OF URUGUAY ACKNOWLEDGES THE STATEMENT OF THE MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY WITH SURPRISE AND DISPLEASURE, NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF ITS INADMISSIBLE JUDGMENT ABOUT THE URUGUAYAN SITUATION, WHICH IT (THE GOU) REJECTS MOST ENERGETICALLY, AND BECAUSE OF THE MISINFORMATION THAT THE SAID JUDGMENT INDICATES, WHICH

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THE GOU REGRETS, BUT ALSO BECAUSE OF THE UNDENIABLE AND
BLATANT ATTEMPT TO INTERVENE IN ITS INTERNAL
AFFAIRS IN CLEAR VIOLATION OF THE PRINCIPLES AND NORMS OF
UNIVERSALLY ACCEPTED INTERNATIONAL LAW UNDER THE PRETEXT
OF INVOKING HUMANITARIAN REASONS.

"SECOND. THE TRADITIONS OF DEMOCRATIC AND HUMANE GOVERNMENT IN URUGUAY TO WHICH THE EXPOSITION BEING RESPONDED TO ALLUDES CONSTITUTE THE GREATEST AND BEST GUARANTEE THAT IN NO PART OF THE URUGUAYAN TERRITORY WILL THERE BE FOUND A SINGLE PERSON DETAINED OR IMPRISONED AS A "RESULT OF HIS STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM OF OPINION OR POLITICAL CONVICTION, FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND FREEDOM OF RELIGION OR BELIEF". CONSEQUENTLY, THE HUMANITARIAN CONCERN REFERRED TO IS TOTALLY USELESS (IDLE).

"THIRD. BECAUSE OF HUMANITARIAN REASONS, IT IS UNDERSTANDABLE THAT THERE IS CONCERN SHOWN OVER THE FACTS THAT WOMEN DETAINED IN PUNTA DE BIELES BECAUSE OF HAVING COMMITTED COMMON CRIMES AND NOT (THOSE) OF OPINION, AND FIND THEMSELVES INDICATED BY THE COMPETENT AUTHORITIES, ARE SEPARATED FROM THEIR CHILDREN. "REGRETTABLY, THIS IS A CIRCUMSTANCE INHERENT IN SUCH A SITUATION INVARIABLY SEEN IN ALL SYSTEMS OF IMPRISONMENT THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. WHAT IS NOT UNDERSTANDABLE IS THAT THE SAME CONCERN IS NOT HELD NOR HAS IT BEEN EXPRESSED WITH RESPECT TO THE 39 PERSONS KILLED THROUGH INTERNATIONAL SUBVERSION AND TERRORISM IN URUGUAY, WHO WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO SPEND THE CHRISTMAS SEASON WITH THEIR CHILDREN, SPOUSES, AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES.

"FOURTH. WITHOUT PREDJUDICE TO THE FOREGOING AND FROM A FORMAL POINT OF VIEW, IT IS USEFUL TO POINT OUT THE INAPPROPRIATENESS OF THE STATEMENT WHICH IS BEING ANSWERED, AND WHICH IS FORMULATED PRECISELY AT THAT MOMENT IN WHICH THE COMPETENT ORGANS OF SECURITY, WITH THE COLLABORATION OF THE PEOPLE, FIND THEMSELVES CONFRONTING NEW AGGRESSION BY

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INTERNATIONAL SUBVERSION AND TERRORISM, AS IS PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE.
FIFTH. FINALLY, THE GOVERNMENT OF URUGUAY WISHES TO
TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS TO THE

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MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE COMMUNITY ITS MOST SINCERE CONVICTION
THAT THE WAY TO ACHIEVE THE AIMS WHICH, AS THEY SAY, INSPIRE
ITS STATEMENT IS TO COMBAT AND EXTERMINATE THE INTERNA-
TIONAL SUBVERSION AND TERRORISM WHICH DEVASTATE THE WORLD,
INCLUDING SOME OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE COMMUNITY ITSELF.

END UNCLASSIFIED.

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